

THE PRICKED EAR

or

after the ball is over

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Vol. IV

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2/9/59
No. 5

HANDSOME IS AS HANDSOME DOES:

For the past several weeks Mike Gordon has been continually damp with blood, sweat and tears, in his function of one-man Committee Coordination Committee, aligning the efforts of Refreshment Committee, Decoration Committee, and Set-up Committee. The results of this maelstrom of activity, if perhaps small compared to an A-bomb blast, were impressively large in terms of importance to the Society. The Saturday dance, which we feel perfectly free to term "elegant", was possibly a milestone in Gryphon social functions, and, more important in the long run, an excellent introduction for the counselor-appliants to the fine art of Gryphoning. It might even be ventured (a little immodestly on our part) that this affair was a pointer to the latent potential of the U.C. that has been tapped by few to date. Hectic days preceded the affair - Mike Gordon will never forget the miles of red tape he traversed, nor will the decorators forget the yards of crepe paper to be hung, and there will long remain the memory of the many panic buttons pushed during the search for dates. To those who labored over the success of the dance, we record a well-earned "THANKS." In conclusion, we would like to quote a remark by one band-member, obviously a man of simpler, less refined tastes, who said: "It was a pretty good party, for a dry party!"

NL

SPEAKING OF COUNSELLING...

As a companion piece to a discussion started in these pages, by Tom Gott, we present a slightly different angle on the problem of Counselor-Freshman relations, Dave Blanchard spokesman...

In this article I propose to set forth what I consider to be the prime reason for the existence of the freshman counseling program, and then to examine three major areas of difficulty for the counselor in the light of this *raison d'etre*.

A freshman enters Lehigh as a high school senior; probably one of the better seniors, but a high school senior nevertheless. By June this same freshman is expected to be a college sophomore; obviously a transition must occur. The job of the counselor is to help the freshman make this transition in the smoothest way possible.

By the above I do not mean to imply that the entering freshman is merely an immature child, for if this were the case we would be faced with a hopeless task. He is, however, a novice at the business of getting along in a college atmosphere and generally has not had to live in as heterogeneous a society as that in which he now finds himself. We, then must help him to learn as soon as possible how to think as a mature adult and to accept the responsibilities of living in a society.

One of the most difficult problems that a counselor faces is that of deciding how to handle the matter of his personal contact with the students. This problem has been discussed several times in this journal but let us now look at it in the light of the above statement.

Our involvement with the section members on a friendly level can be related to our overall purpose in two ways. First, only when the freshman is able to view the counselor as a human being will he be in the proper state of mind to look upon disciplinary action as something that is justified rather than as the act of an unreasonable tyrant. And only when he can look upon discipline in this way will he be able to achieve a mature understanding of social justice. This implies that if disciplinary action is to have any real value for the freshman, the counselor must have frequent contact with his section members other than in his role as a disciplinarian.

In the second place, if the counselor is viewed as something more than a mere policeman, he will be able to move freely about in the section, dropping in on bull sessions without disrupting them, and thus be able both to contribute stimulating ideas and also to spot any potential personal problems as they develop.

The second problem with which the program as a whole, as well as each individual counselor, is concerned, is that of how much responsibility should be given to the freshmen. I think that the above statement of purpose makes the answer to this problem quite obvious. Specifically, I feel that the freshmen should be given just as much responsibility during the freshman year as they can possibly handle. The counselor who has delegated responsibility to one or more freshmen must then be careful not to exert an undue amount of control over the freshmen as they carry out their tasks. If this happens, the value of responsibility to the freshmen is lost. The watchword should be guidance, not control.

The third problem to be considered is that of personal counseling. Here again, I feel we should strive to stimulate the development of a mature attitude on the part of the freshman. In our counseling we should not try to find an answer for the student but rather help the student to find the answer for himself. Often, for instance, all that is necessary is to present the student's problem to him in a different way from that in which he has been viewing it, and thus help him to find the answer for himself more easily. Note that here also the answer is guidance instead of control, for if we solve the problem for the student, he may never learn to solve his own problems, and thus will never achieve true maturity.

I sincerely hope that these few examples have made the main task of the counselor clear. For I strongly feel that if each of us acts with this idea in mind we can perform an invaluable service to the University and, more important, to the freshmen themselves.

D. Blanchard

In passing, we note that no comments have been received concerning last week's article by Si Morse, and we take that as an indication that you all agree with his problem solving technique. We should see, then, a fine display of this attitude at the next Gryphon meeting.

COUNSELOR'S GALLERY OF ROGUES - Mug Shot #2:

6.1 Play Boy

This composite "student" embodies most of the characteristics, both good and bad, of the typical "Joe College", a confusingly general appellation. At the freshman level he may be a truly urbane "playboy" who impresses both his peers and his counselor, or more simply a boy who "likes to play" and who may or may not impress others with his play. Here is a list of his characteristics: he 1) is average or above average in intelligence; 2) probably comes from a good family; 3) often has a prep school background; 4) has similar friends in other sections; 5) is very active with town girls; 6) drinks a lot, but knows enough not to cause a disturbance when he does so; 7) is very polite and always mannerly--hard to catch at any of the mischievous activities he is involved in; 8) believes in the educational value of bull sessions to the extent that he neglects his studies to participate in them; 9) is an altogether likable person; 10) has a following of persons who look up to him and who like to be as "smooth" also; 11) has a roomful of activity, one of the most interesting in the section; 12) has little school spirit.

He usually sees and understands his problem but will not make up his mind to take the problem in hand. He has some of the same characteristics as the "Overconfident Student", but his reactions are not necessarily the same.

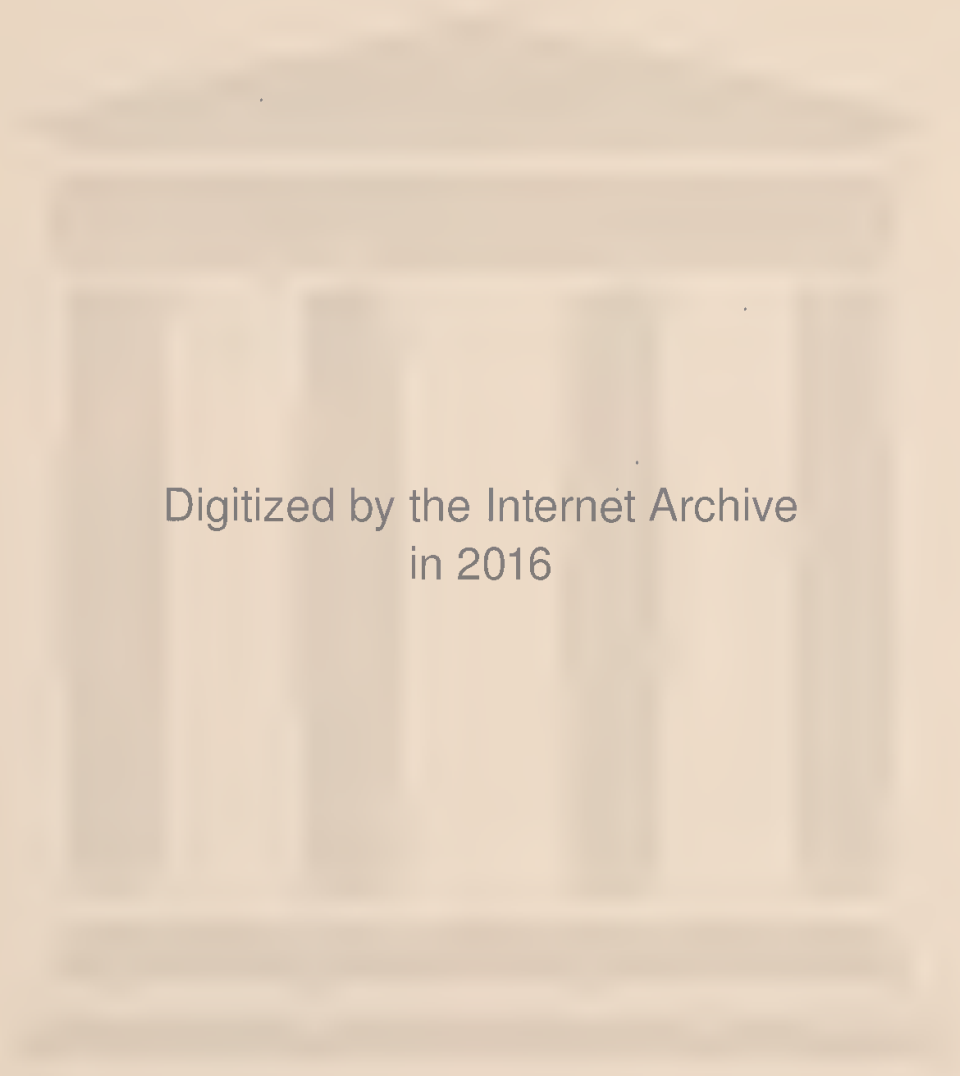
When you talk to this boy you can take advantage of his desire to be liked by consistently returning his good manners. He will accept some responsibility if it is given him, and will probably be cooperative. In talking with him you can usually be frank and straightforward. The real problem here is usually that the boy will not live up to his potential as a student. Almost all counselors feel that time will be the only cure for this problem because talking usually has little effect on him. He provides a worthwhile challenge to the counselor, however. An added problem is to "protect" those students who might suffer from association with him.

JLF

REPORT FROM HARMON'S BUNIONS:

After a moderately successful prediction of last week (hoo, ha?-Ed.), the Gryphon Meteorologist continues to apply the fire to his crystal ball, and comes up with the following words of wisdom.

We can expect some light showers tonight. Tomorrow we will have clearing weather, with temperatures near 50. It should be even



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warmer on Wednesday.

Long range outlook: We'll get at least one or two days with temperatures in the 60's between now and Spring Vacation.

JJH

PLUTARCH'S "LIVES" RELIVED:

Bob Bierley

Bob came to Lehigh by way of Alma College, Michigan, where he obtained a B.S. in physics. After taking a psychology course in his senior year, he decided that this and not physics was the field for him. So now an M.S. in experimental Psychology is his goal at Lehigh.

Bob was a member of Delta Gamma Tau fraternity at Alma, and also a stellar member of the "Rho Dammmit Rho" drinking fraternity, and one of the five varsity Drinkers who captured many national titles by their Gargantuan efforts. More sedately, Bob also captured two letters in football, and three in golf.

When asked the difference between Lehigh and Alma, the succinct reply was, "Girls".

After Lehigh, Bob plans to work in experimental psychology or perhaps human engineering (the Lehigh influence?-Ed.). Marriage plans also loom in the near future.

Gryphonwise, Bob sums up his contributions to the society as "an attempt to lend a sobering atmosphere to our wild parties."

(Ed. note - Those who know Bob, of course, realize that he is much too modest in totaling his Gryphon work. As most notable, we might indicate the many hours spent on the Counselor Selection Program.)

WF

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Reminder: Dr. Stewart will speak to the Gryphons this Wednesday at 6:50 P.M. fourth floor U.C. Dinner in the Asa Packer room at 6:15, for those who have so indicated.

No Gryphon meeting this week, due to no business.

Monthly house meetings with Jim Fozard:

Richards Counselors' Lounge 9:30 P.M. Tues., March 17.

Dravo Counselors' Lounge 9:30 P.M. Wed., March 18.

Drinker Freshman Lounge 9:30 P.M. Thurs., March 19.

Attend one of these three meetings. In particular I want to hear some reports on the progress of frosh on scholastic pro. Be prepared to discuss at least one case in detail for the other counselors, especially what you are doing. Freshman counselor applicants are invited.

JLF

Meeting for group counselors - Messrs. Blanchard, Culver, Dolan, Emerson, Fowler, Mulherin, Thomson and Wolfgang - in Dravo Counselors' Lounge on Thursday, March 12 at 10 P.M. It should last about 45 minutes.

THE CURRENT CINEMATIC OFFERINGS:

Allentown

Boyd: Sun.-Thurs; Rally Round The Flag, Boys
Start Fri; Black Orchid
Colonial: Sun-on; Some Came Running
Earle: Sun-on; Paratroop Command & Submarine
Seahawk (an ROTC special)
19th St; Sun-on; My Uncle
Rialto: Sun-Wed; Ten Commandments
Start Thurs; The Journey

Bethlehem

Boyd: Sun-Wed; Rally Round The Flag, Boys
Start Thurs; The Journey
College: Sun-Tues; Joyride & Unwed Mothers
Start Wed; Lonely Hearts (Is there a sequence here?)
Globe: Sun-Tues; Land of the Pharaohs & Helen of Troy
Start Wed; Haunted House
Nile: Sun-Tues; Black Orchid
Start Wed; Never Steal Anything Small

